

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the above-identified application.

Claims 11 and 13 have been amended so as to make a minor change which does not affect the patentability of the claims. Specifically, the phrase "cast film" has been amended so as to be simply "film". This is because, usually "cast film" is understood in the industry to refer to a film after casting but **before** stretching. However the use of this term in claims 11 and 13 is slightly inconsistent with this generally understood meaning, unless the above-noted changes are made to claims 11 and 13.

It is submitted that this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. 1.312(a) and should be entered of record. The reason why this amendment is needed is to make a minor clarification with regard to claims 11 and 13 so that the term "cast film" can be used consistent with its ordinary accepted meaning. No additional search or examination is required with regard to these changes to claims 11 and 13, since the change from "cast film" to "film" does not affect any patentability issues with regard to prior art or disclosure requirements. Claims 11 and 13 remain patentable with these changes, because these changes do not raise any additional patentability issues. These changes to claims 11 and 13 were not presented earlier, because applicants had not realized that this clarification was necessary in order to use the term "cast film" consistent with the ordinary, accepted meaning.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this Amendment should be entered of record and fully considered by the Patent Examiner.

It is submitted for the reasons stated above that the present claims define patentable subject matter such that this application should now be placed condition for allowance.

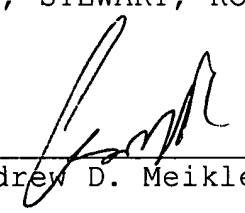
If any questions arise regarding the above matters, please contact Applicant's representative, Andrew D. Meikle (Reg. No. 32,868), in the Washington Metropolitan Area at the phone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By

  
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